



## Homework Policy

Homework is an integral part of the curriculum. It provides opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership to enhance children's learning. It encourages children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.

### Aims

We aim to:

- Encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences
- Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for the individual pupil beyond the classroom environment
- Use homework as a tool to help to raise standards of attainment by consolidating basic skills and knowledge
- Use homework to develop self-directed learning through a child making personal choices in how to complete homework tasks
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school

### Time Allocation and Tasks

**Homework is a positive opportunity for the child and a parent to spend time together and discuss learning.** Throughout a pupil's time at the school the amount and duration of homework will slowly increase. Homework should never be too onerous nor should it ever create stress within the pupil's family. If parents have any concerns they should discuss them with the class teacher. Homework should always be relevant to what the children are currently learning and should not contain anything that they have not already covered in class unless it is a research project.

Homework is sent home with children from F2 upwards and time allocations will vary according to the tasks set and the age group assigned to.

**Foundation 2** children will start to receive homework tasks after half-term in Term 1. They receive 3 – 4 revision sheets per week, which are optional. There is no time frame for these as they are intended for parents to see what their children have been learning and to help them with any areas of difficulty.

**Key Stage 1** children receive a homework pack each Thursday to be returned to school the following Thursday. Tasks include English, Maths, Science, Topic, reading and spellings. The children are not expected to spend more than 30 minutes on any single task in the booklet.

**Key Stage 2** children receive a homework pack each Thursday with tasks for each day of the week. These include English, Maths, Science, Topic, spelling, reading and times tables. The children complete the tasks daily and return them to school each day to be marked. The tasks should take between 30 minutes and one hour to complete, depending on the type of task and level of difficulty.

**Key Stage 3** children receive homework daily from their individual subject teachers. They are expected to complete at least one piece of homework for each of their curriculum subject areas per week. These tasks will vary in length and expected time allocations for children to complete them.



Time allocations will vary between children, but the most important aspect of homework is the quality and effort that children put into the task.

The children will each be given a homework planner which plays a key role in home/school communication – both parents and teachers use these planners, not only to keep track of the homework expectations, but also to send notes or reminders. It should be brought into school EVERY day.

Key Stage 1 and 2 homework is input onto the school Wikispace each week: <http://nisdring.wikispaces.com> and parents can access the homework directly from there as well.

### **Role of the Class Teacher**

- To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the taught curriculum
- To reward and praise children who regularly complete homework tasks
- To mark homework and give feedback to pupils
- To provide an explanation of homework tasks to parents when necessary and give guidance on how they might assist their child. This may be done by a note with the work or in the Daily Planner

### **Role of the Team Leader/Key Stage Coordinator**

- To ensure homework is set up regularly in an easy to follow routine
- To ensure that homework is set consistently across the year groups
- To ensure that homework tasks take equal opportunities into account
- To ensure that homework is relevant to the children's learning

### **Role of SMT**

- To ensure that homework is submitted regularly in compliance with the Policy
- To inform parents of the Homework Policy

### **Role of Parents**

- To sign the Home-School Agreement in which they agree to support the children with any work sent home
- To ensure that their child completes any homework set
- To provide a suitable environment at home for their child to complete homework
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities
- To sign the homework booklet and/or Daily Planner each time their child completes their weekly homework tasks.

If a child is absent for a length of time, parents can access the Wikispace for Key Stage 1 and 2 homework. Key Stage 3 parents will need to liaise with individual subject teacher for guidance on learning to be done at home, how it should be marked and what type of help and support needs to be given.

Parents who have concerns or queries about homework should not hesitate to make an appointment to see their child's Class Teacher.